(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Production of films in India, being primarily in the private sector, the Government does not exercise any control over the contents of the films produced. However, before public exhibition of a film, it needs to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification. The objectives of certification are:

(i) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;

(ii) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed;

(iii) certification is responsive to social change;

(iv) the medium of film provides clean and healthy entertainment; and

(v) as far as possible, the film is of aesthetic value and cinematically of a good standard.

Financial Assistance to Film Industry

1941. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions have started financing the film industry;

(b) if not which are the Banks and FIs yet to start financing the industry;

(c) the reasons for their non-extending finances to this vital sector; and

(d) the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Under the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) Act, 1964 Section 2(c)(xvii) "Entertainment Industry including films" has been included as

an 'approved activity' under 'industrial concern', thus making films an activity approved for lending by IDBI.

Both IDBI as well as RBI have formulated schemes/guidelines specifically for financing of films. IDBI has provided the following information regarding loans extended by it as on Feb. 24, 2003.

(Rs. in crores)

Period	Sanctioned	Disbursed
April 01-March 02	72.72	21.50
April 02-Feb. 03	31.73	34.40
TOTAL	104.45	55.90

As per RBI guidelines, public sector banks may finalise production of films of producers with good track record subject to certain conditions. This Ministry does not maintain information on the number of banks and financial institutions which extend such finance to the film industry.

Disputes of NFDC and Prasar Bharati

1942. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "NFDC, Prasar Bharati row over dues", which appeared in the Statesman, dated the 24th January, 2003;

(b) if so, whether the NFDC and Prasar Bharati both are having dispute over dues on each other;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by government to resolve their disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is a dispute about the exact amount payable by NFDC to Doordarshan. Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, has been asked to look into the matter and reconcile the disputed amount.